



NEWS RELEASE

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

1301 N. Orchard St., Boise ID 83706 -- Phone: (208) 327-7900 FAX: (208) 327-7866
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Release 2003-36

IWRB ACTS ON REQUESTS FOR WATER PROJECTS FUNDING

For Immediate Release
Boise, Idaho – July 1, 2003

For Media Information Contact:
Dick Larsen - (208) 327-7933

The Idaho Water Resource Board approved two loans and a grant totaling \$235,900 in financial support for water projects at its regular meeting in Sandpoint June 27, Board officials announced today.

The Board also delayed action on a comprehensive state water plan proposal that would have changed the operating procedure for Priest Lake water levels. Board members also decided to delay completion of the Lower Boise River Basin plan by a year. Both actions came because Board members felt it was important that they get additional public and technical input on the issues.

In other action, the Board left its loan program interest rate unchanged at 5.5 percent for agricultural based loans and 6.0 percent for municipal based loans. The Board also enacted a temporary water bank rule that would allow Water District 1 to move ahead with implementation of its new rental pool procedures.

The financial requests approved by the Board were:

- A loan of \$200,000 to the Boise City Canal Company for a canal rehabilitation project;
- A loan of \$30,000 to the Spirit Bend Water Association (Kootenai County near the town of Spirit Lake) for the construction of a new storage tank; and
- A grant of \$5,900 to the Preston Whitney Reservoir Company (Franklin County west of Preston) to study a proposed repair of the outlet pipe to Johnson dam and reservoir;

The Board turned down requests for a \$5,000 grant to the City of Boise and Trout Unlimited to restore a portion of Cottonwood Creek at Julia Davis Park in Boise, and a request by the Lakeview Water District (Clearwater County near Dworshak Reservoir) to revise its repayment contract on an existing \$49,361 loan.